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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/706,854	11/07/2000	Makoto Saitome	1614.1092	8551

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STAAS & HALSEY LLP
SUITE 700
1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20005

EXAMINER

GESESSE, TILAHUN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2684

DATE MAILED: 02/13/2004

6

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/706,854

Applicant(s)

SAOTOME ET AL.

Examiner

Tilahun B Gesesse

Art Unit

2684

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 August 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This is in response to applicant's amendment filed August 8, 2003, in which claims 1 through 22 are pending.
2. The amendment of the title in response to the objection of the title is acknowledged.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.
4. Claims 1,15 and 21-22 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicant's claims are drawn to negative recitation or have not positively recited claims, for instance, when the signal peculiar to the USB is not detected or received. The indicated phrase is not positively recited phrase of the claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1,3-5,9-10,15,20-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsuda (6,211,649) in view of Mizutani et al (6,603,744).

As to claim 1,15,21-22 Matsuda discloses a communication device (10) comprising: detecting means (15) for detecting a voltage output and temperature exceed predetermine threshold "peculiar signal" to a Universal Serial Bus (USB) obtained via the USB (col.3, lines 18-25, col. 3, lines 35-57 and figs.2 and 3). Matsuda discloses disconnecting means (13) for disconnecting a line, which is being used for charging the mobile terminal when the voltage or temperature is above a threshold (col. 3, lines 58-67 and figs. 2 and 3). Matsuda does not specifically disclose data transmission is disconnected when the signal peculiar to the USB is not detected by said detecting means within a predetermined time. However, Mizutani et al, in a similar field of endeavor, disclose disconnect the bus when there is no message transmission takes place within predetermined time (column 14, lines 15-64, column 15, line 62-column 16, line 5 and figures 1 & 6). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, improve Matsuda in disconnecting a universal serial bus connection upon detecting no transmission is taking place, as taught by Mizutani, in order to conserve power during an idle state of the communication.

As to claim 3,20, Matsuda discloses all the limitation of claim 1, and further disclose the disconnecting means (15) instructs the communication via a command line

with respect to a wireless telephone set which is coupled to the communication device (col. 3, lines 61-67 and figs. 2 and 3).

As to claim 4, Matsuda discloses the disconnecting means disconnects the line, which is being used for the communication by cutting off a power supply of the wireless telephone set (col. 3, lines 64-col. 4 line 7 and figs. 2 and 3).

As to claim 5, Matsuda discloses USB cable which is capable of transmitting data and charging a battery for external device (mobile phone) upon the voltage and temperature of USB is above the limit then interrupt the charge and stop the supply of the power "disconnection of the line which is being used for the communication " the user aware that the power is cut-off "notify" (col. 1, line 65-col.2, line 4, col. 3, lines 51-67 and fig.3).

As to claim 9, Matsuda discloses the detecting means (15) and the disconnecting means (13) are built into a connector of a cable (10) connecting computer equipment (20) and a wireless telephone set (30) (col.3 lines 1-33 and fig.2).

As to claim 10, Matsuda discloses the detecting means (15) and said disconnecting means (13) are built into one of a computer equipment (21 USB port of computer 20) and a wireless telephone set (through phone connector of phone 30) which are coupled via the communication device (10) (col. 2, lines 55-67 and fig.1).

7. Claims 2, 11-14,16, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsuda in view of Mizutani et al and further in view of Hamdi et al (6,408,351).

As to claims 2,16 Matsuda and Mizutani do not specifically disclose the signal peculiar to the USB is selected from a group of a frame start (SOF) signal, an interrupt

transfer request signal, a control transfer signal and a BULK IN transfer request signal. However, Hamdi et al, in the same field of endeavor, disclose the UBS supports four types data transfers that is control transfers, bulk transfers, interrupt transfers and start of frame (SOF) (col.6, lines 50-57 and col. 9, lines 27-30). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to detect a signal that causes damage to a device be selected from group of signal, as taught by Hamdi, in order to protect the communication device from damage due to unusual or unregulated voltage flow to a device.

As to claim 11, Matsuda discloses all the limitation of claim 1, and further disclose the disconnecting means (15) instructs the communication via a command line with respect to a wireless telephone set which is coupled to the communication device (col. 3, lines 61-67 and figs. 2 and 3).

As to claim 12, Matsuda discloses the disconnecting means disconnects the line, which is being used for the communication by cutting off a power supply of the wireless telephone set (col. 3, lines 64-col. 4 line 7 and figs. 2 and 3).

As to claim 13, Matsuda discloses the detecting means (15) and the disconnecting means (13) are built into a connector of a cable (10) connecting computer equipment (20) and a wireless telephone set (30) (col.3 lines 1-33 and fig.2).

As to claim 14, Matsuda discloses the detecting means (15) and said disconnecting means (13) are built into one of a computer equipment (21 USB port of computer 20) and a wireless telephone set (through phone connector of phone 30) which are coupled via the communication device (10) (col. 2, lines 55-67 and fig.1).

8. Claims 6-8,17-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsuda in view of Mizutani et al and further in view of Freadman (6,546,262).

As to claims 6,17, Matsuda and Mizutani do not specifically disclose electronic mail function of a wireless telephone set. However, Freadman discloses cellular phone is coupled to cradle "USB" and upload exchange data between computer and the phone list of phone and names of callers (col.4 lines 30-47). Since Matsuda transmits data from the host computer to the phone through the couple USB connection, then, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, improve Matsuda and Mizutani in exchanging message from host computer to mobile phone, as taught by Freadman, in order to update the information such as email or list of phone number, name, voicemail, to the mobile phone.

As to claims 7,18 Matsuda does not specifically disclose log storage means. However, Freadman discloses transmitted the list of number or names stored (col. 4, lines 23-29). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Matsuda in storing list of phone number, as taught by Freadman, for further reference or retrieval information are stored.

As to claims 8,19 Matsuda discloses computer equipment, which is coupled to the communication device via the USB (col. 3 line 67 to col.4, line7). Matsuda does not disclose reconnecting is performed based on stored lines. However, Freadman disclose the cellular phone re-attached t the cradle the computer instructing the software to upload this list to the phone (col.4, lines 30-47). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify

Matsuda in storing list of lines and reconnect, as taught by Freadman, for easily accessing the number and names without memorizing for reconnection.

Response to Arguments

9. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-14 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

10. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

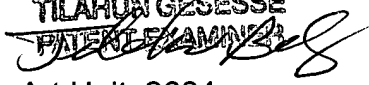
Farazmandnia et al (6,625,472) disclose a system and method for connecting a cellular telephone (3) to a personal computing device (1). A mobile phone interface MPI (16) is molded between the ends of a Universal Serial Bus-USB port on a personal computing device (1) (abstract and figure 2).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tilahun B Gesesse whose telephone number is 703-308-5873. The examiner can normally be reached on flex.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nay Maung can be reached on 703-308-7745. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2684

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

TILAHUN GESESSE
PATENT EXAMINER

Art Unit: 2684

TBG

February 9, 2004